सुविधा के लिये दिल्ली में कम्प्यूटर द्वारा कारोबार किया जाता है; और

(ग) यदि हां तो यह सुविधा कब तक मुहैया करा दिये जाने की संभावना है ?

वित्त मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री और संसदीय कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डा० अबरार अहमद) : (क) से (ग) सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और सभा पटल पर रख दी जाएगी ।

Removing corruption from General Insurance Companies

1645. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of rampant corruption in the General Insurance Companies in the country and many officials were recently arrested by CBI on corruption charges;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what action Government propose to take to remove corruption from General Insurance Companies in the country.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (c) No, Sir. The General Insurance Corporation of India and its four subsidiaries viz National Insurance Company Ltd.; New India Assurance Co. Ltd.; Oriental Insurance Company Ltd. and United India Insurance Company Ltd. have strong vigilance machinery headed by Cheif Vigilance Officers. They are assisted by Regional level Vigilance Officers. Every year, Action Plans are formulated on anti-corruption measures including preventive vigilance. Agreed list of officers of doubtful integrity as prepared in consultation with the Central Bureau of Investigation and surprise inspections are carried out by the Vigilance Officers from time to time. The vigilance machinery works in close association with the CBI. The vigilance activities of the GIC and its four subsidiaries are monitored and supervised at the Ministry level from time to time. These measures ensure prevention of corrupt practices in the GIC and its subsidiaries.

The Government is aware that two officers of the New India Assurance Company Ltd., New Delhi were detained by the CBI in January, 1993 for questioning in connection with the alleged acceptance of bribe from a chemical factory representative for settlement of his claim.

Instructions to Banks for exchanging torn and soiled Notes

1646. SYED SIBTEY RAZI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether instructions have been issued to all public sector and private sector banks to exchange torn and soiled currency notes when received from general public;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether such steps will discourage the general public to visit Reserve Bank of India for this service;

(d) whether existing instructions for exchange of torn and soiled currency notes have been displayed near cash transaction counters of all branches of public and private sector banks; and

(e) if so, what are the details thereof and if not, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED (a) to (e) Information is being collected from Reserve Bank of India, Bombay and the same will be laid on the Table of the House.

Scrutinising Assessment cases under Income Tax Act

1647. SHRIMATI CHANDRIKA ABHINANDAN JAIN : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) what are the criteria and guidelines adopted for the scrutiny of assessment cases under the prevailing Income Tax Act;

(b) whether it has come to the notice of Government that these guidelines have been misinterpreted by the officials of the Department thereby involving undue paper work and helping the business community; and

(c) if so, what is the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKHAR MURTHY : (a) The broad guidelines for selection of cases for scrutiny during the current financial year 1992-93 are given in the Statement attached. [*See* below]

(b) No, Sir; no case of misinterpretation has come to the notice.

(c) Does not arise.

Statement

Broad Guidelines for selection of cases for scrutiny during the Financial year 1992-93.

1. All returns with income/loss of Rs. 5 lakhs and above.

2. Cases with refunds exceeding Rs. 1

3. Glaring cases of tax evasion or avoidance and cases where information has been received from the Central Information Branch of Income Tax Department and through surveys and other sources.

4. Cases of contractors claiming refund of Rs. 10,000 or more and the net profit rate disclosed is less than 8 per cent.

5. New cases where there is wide variation between the returned income and the income indicated in survey reports.

6. If there are no adequate number of cases of the above types with any assessing officer, he shall take up other income/loss cases in descending order of the amount of returned income/loss.

1648. [*Transferred to 17th March* 1993].

Granting Bank Loans to Weaker Sections

1649. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have given any instructions to the nationalised banks to continue the programmes of granting loans to weaker sections of society:

(b) if so, what are the details of such instructions given to nationalised banks during the year 1992-93; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government to meet the credit requirements of poorer sections of the society ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. ABRAR AHMED) : (a) to (c) The commercial banks participate in the programmes sponsored by the Government to enable the identified beneficiaries to pursue viable schemes for their economic upliftment. In addition to the above, the bank also frame the schemes on their own to assist weaker sections of the society by way of providing loans to them for productive ventures. It has been enjoined upon them that 10% of their total advances should be for weaker sections of the society. Amongst the Government programmes, the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP) is the major one to assist selected families of target groups in rural areas to cross the poverty line by taking up self-employment ventures. The programme inter-alia, provide that not less than 50% of the families assisted should belong to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes communities and not less than 50% of assistance provided by Government should also go to these categories. The performance of public sector banks in the matter of extending credit assistance to weaker sections is reviewed by the Government as well as Reserve Bank of India (RBI) periodically and suitable steps are taken to make up the deficiencies noticed.

Bank Loans to Technocrats

1650. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government has given any direction to nationalised banks to assist technocrats in reviving sick units; and